

1874-75

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

# TOWN OF CANTON,

For the year ending Feb. 28, 1875,

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BOSTON:

WILLIAM BENSE, PRINTER, 35 CONGRESS STREET,

1875.



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# R E P O R T .



## ORGANIZATION.

THE Committee was organized as follows :

J. MASON EVERETT, *Chairman.*

ARTHUR C. KOLLOCK, *Secretary.*

J. MASON EVERETT, GEO. F. SUMNER, ARTHUR C. KOLLOCK, *Committee on Text Books.*

*Sub Committees :* -

District No. 1, GEO. F. SUMNER.

“ “ 2, ISAAC HORTON.

“ “ 3, EDWIN WENTWORTH.

“ “ 4, JESSE FENNO.

“ “ 5, GEO. E. DOWNES.

“ “ 6, J. W. WATTLES.

“ “ 7, ARTHUR C. KOLLOCK.

High School, J. MASON EVERETT.

*Agent for sale of School Books,* D. C. F. ELLIS.

*Superintendent of Schools,* FREDERIC ENDICOTT.

## FINANCIAL.

The appropriation by the Town for teaching, fuel and care of school-rooms, was . - - - - \$10.000 00

Received from State (School Fund,) - - - - 325 19

“ “ County, (Dog Licenses,) - - 579 46

*Total,* \$10.904 65

Amount paid for teaching, - - - \$9.374 55

Fuel and care of school-rooms, - - 1.395 84 10.770 39

Balance unexpended, \$134 26

The amount appropriated for repairs, incidentals and supplies, was	- - - - -	\$1,500 00
Amount paid for same,	- - - - -	1,235 91

Balance unexpended,	\$264 09
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The amount appropriated for Evening Schools, was	\$500 00
Amount paid for same,	- - - - - 471 00

Balance unexpended,	\$29 00
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#### ESTIMATES FOR 1875.

Teaching, fuel and care of school rooms,	-	\$10,500 00
Repairs, incidentals and supplies,	- - -	1,000 00
Evening Schools,	- - - - -	500 00

The sum total of the above items remains the same as last year, the estimate for repairs and incidentals having been reduced \$500. and that sum added to the estimate for teaching. The school property in the town being generally in good condition, it has been thought safe to make this reduction, while for reasons given below, it is very desirable that the first item should be increased.

#### EVENING SCHOOLS.

In accordance with the vote of the Town, authorizing the Committee to establish Evening Schools, on satisfactory evidence that they would be regularly attended by a sufficient number, three of these schools have been in operation during a part of the Fall and the whole of the Winter term. The attendance has been much better than last year, and any appropriation for this purpose, for the present year, should be made with the same conditions as last year.

#### ATTENDANCE.

Some of the schools have maintained a very good average during the past year, noticeably the High School during the last two terms, when their average was 98 and 99 per cent.

The school that has suffered most from irregularity of attendance is that in District No. 5, and it is very apparent that this school will never take the position it ought to take with reference to the other schools in town until this evil is removed. The remedy is in the hands of the parents in the District, and no time should be lost in applying it. We give below the names of pupils deserving of praise for their constancy :—

## ROLL OF HONOR.

The figures at the right of the names show the number of times tardy.

### *Names of those not absent during the year.*

Martha H. Ames,	Emma F. Pitcher,	John W. Thomas,
Helen G. Kinsley,	Annie E. Capper,	Robert E. Lloyd,
W. Otis Dunbar,—7	Mabel E. Farrington,	Lester A. Johnson,
W. H. McKendry,	Emma E. Tower,	Cecilia G. Freeman,
Julia A. Crane,	Percy M. Leavitt,	Carrie L. Ereeman,—1
Agnes M. Bright,	George Katzenmeier,—2	Laura M. Shepard.
Charlotte M. Endicott,	John H. McGuire,—8	

### *Names of those not absent during two terms.*

John H. Griffin,	Herbert Tucker,—3	Catherine A. White,
Homer C. Bowman,—3	Elizabeth B. Callery,—2	Timothy Doody,
Ida G. Capen,	Lillian M. Harding,	Henry Thomas,
Florence A. Cobb,—3	Hannah M. Kanelly,—1	Herbert L. Fenno,
Mary F. Jenkins,	George Thomas,	Henry W. Estey,—48
Carrie I. Kingsley,	Catherine Doody,—1	John D. Sawyer,—8
J. D. Dunbar,—7	Catherine Flynn,	Henry Katzenmeier,
Daniel B. Smith,—1	John B. Tucker,	William R. Beechey,
Lucy E. Seavey,	Edward Champney;	Thomas Tapper,
Millie E. Wentworth,	Thomas Kaliher,	Ellen Folan,—1
Amy Cave,—1	Ellen Galligan,—1	Catherine Murphy,—2
Ellen M. Cronon,—2	Esther J. Martin,—5	William Tapper,
Honora M. Cronon,—2	Louisa Quill,	Henry E. Briggs,
Mary G. Snow,	Ida L. Richards,—1	Jessie M. Cram,
Annie D. Williams,	Mary E. Richards,—3	Carrie Hesketh,
Alice M. Horton,	Mary A. Galigan,	Robert Murray,—3
Ella G. Richards,—1	Christopher Machedon,—1	Cora M. Oliver,—4
Alice W. Ames,	Annie Callery,—1	Lucy A. Freeman,—1
George E. Howard,	William Creeden,	Ella M. Harrington,—1
Cornelius Shea,—1	James Lynch,	Mary E. Shaw,
Genevieve Farrington,	Frank H. Farrel,—3	Clara F. Evons,
	Thomas Murray,	

### *Names of those not absent during one term.*

Mary J. Holmes,—4	Timothy Crowley,	John A. Fisher,
Agnes M. Little,	Thomas Greelish,—1	Daniel Leary,



Henry B. Hewett,  
 Arthur B. Kollock,  
 Gustavus A. Guild,—2  
 Jennie F. Ellis,  
 Sarah A. Horton.  
 Helen M. Sumner,  
 Sarah E. Brown,—1  
 John C. Gerald,  
 Eliza M. Capen,—3  
 Delia L. Williamson,—2  
 Harriet A. Haskins,—1  
 George H. Capen,—1  
 Amy A. Downes,  
 James Lyons,  
 Mary J. Murphy,  
 Patrick J. Cronon,—1  
 John W. Norris,—1  
 Nancy T. Draper,—4  
 Georgie E. Downes,  
 Mary C. Hewett,  
 J. Sumner Draper,  
 Ellis E. Farrington,  
 I. Chester Horton,  
 Adelaide F. Stoddard,  
 Abbie J. Davenport,—2  
 Lawrence Horton,  
 Hannah Hurley,  
 Alice M. Hunt,  
 Margaret Kailher,  
 John Kailher,—1  
 Harriet G. Bent,  
 Freeman F. Baldwin,  
 Sarah L. Banks,—2  
 Marion A. Bowman,—2  
 Gertrude Capen,  
 Fidelia R. Ellis,  
 Emma J. Perkins,  
 Isabel Tucker,—1  
 Mary Coughlan,  
 Sophia W. French,—3  
 Alice J. Flynn,

Peter Grimes,—2  
 Benjamin Lloyd,  
 James McPherson,  
 John Reilley,  
 Fred F. Seavey,—1  
 Mary A. Crowley,  
 Ellen Kelleher,  
 George Breslyn,—1  
 Elmer A. Billings,—1  
 Mary Kendrick,—7  
 Clara L. Champney,—6  
 Julia E. A. Kaliher,  
 Alice L. Martin,  
 Emma J. Lord,  
 Mary Sweeney,—1  
 Charles W. Seavey,—1  
 Michael Doody,  
 Daniel Kaliher,  
 Henry D. Deane,  
 Owen Galligan,  
 Herbert A. Billings,  
 James Galligan,  
 Charles M. Harding,  
 William G. Wentworth,  
 William H. Chadbourne,  
 James T. Costello,  
 John F. Healey,  
 Julia Burke,  
 Jane E. Healey,  
 Hannah M. Kelleher,  
 Mary E. Sheehan,  
 Thomas Galligan,  
 Dennis T. Lyons,  
 Mary Sweeney,  
 William Dalton,  
 Timothy Leary,  
 Ellen McGahan,  
 Cornelius Creedon,  
 Frank Lynch,  
 Kate Kelleher,  
 Herbert A. Morse,

William Capper,  
 Cornelius Kaliher,  
 Kate A. Cohan,  
 Isabella Grimes,  
 Effie G. McPherson,  
 Herbert T. Seavey,  
 Frank B. Jones,—4  
 Emma B. Wentworth,  
 Alice S. Smith,  
 Mary E. Titkie,—1  
 Charles Katzenmeier,  
 William Katzenmeier,  
 Mary Coffey,  
 William H. Sterry,  
 M. Elizabeth Barnes,—10  
 Margaret Dunn,  
 David W. Finnigan,—1  
 John W. Grimes,  
 Angus McGilvray,  
 Charles A. Drake,  
 John Foley,—3  
 Mary E. Groves,—4  
 Ira C. Marden,—1  
 Ellen Smith,—3  
 Margery S. Wattles,  
 John Akerson,—1  
 Ellen Dunn,  
 Timothy Horagon,  
 Caroline Langdon,—1  
 John Ryan,—1  
 Eleanor E. Carroll,—1  
 George H. Jenkins,  
 John Lyons,  
 Annie Block,—5  
 William B. Kollock,  
 George A. Harrington,—12  
 Eliza E. Perkins,  
 Helen M. Mansfield,  
 Nellie F. Saunders,—1  
 Mary O. Wentworth,—5

## HIGH SCHOOL.

Admissions to the High School have been as follows:—

From No. 1, Grammar School,	-	-	5
“ “ 3, “ “	-	-	7
“ “ 6, “ “	-	-	3
“ “ 4, Mixed “	-	-	2

Total, 17

The Graduating Exercises of the High School took place July 7, and Diplomas were granted to the following

## GRADUATES.

Almira K. Chapman,		Grace Ada Howard,
Mary Ella Deane,		Carrie Etta Silloway,
Elizabeth Bradley Shattuck.		



## MUSIC.

The question of the introduction of the study of vocal music into the schools has occupied the attention of the Committee to a considerable extent the past year. The General Statutes provide that this branch "shall be taught in all the public schools in which the school committee shall deem it expedient." In September last application was made to the Committee in behalf of Mr. H. J. Whittemore, for the position of musical instructor in our schools. This brought the subject directly before the Committee, but as there was no money that could be appropriated to the purpose, no action was taken at that time. Mr. Whittemore then made a proposition to give instruction in music in the schools in District No. 3, from October until the February vacation, free of charge,—the Committee, if satisfied with the success of his experiment, to ask the town for an appropriation sufficient to enable them to introduce it into all the schools in town. This proposition was accepted and it is unnecessary to say to any one present at the Exhibition at the close of the Winter Term, that the experiment has proved very satisfactory. In the short time during which these pupils were under his instruction, most excellent progress was made, and the Committee have no hesitation in asking that the sum of \$500. be added to the appropriation for schools, to enable them to introduce vocal music, as a study, in all the schools in town. As an indication of the public sentiment upon this question, it may be well to state that numerous applications have been made to members of the Committee, by parents, desiring music to be taught their children, and within the last month several petitions, signed by nearly one hundred citizens and parents, favorable to its introduction, have been received by the Committee.

The report of the Superintendent of Schools, hereto annexed, gives the important facts in relation to the condition of the schools, contains some valuable suggestions, and is commended to your careful perusal.

J. MASON EVERETT,	} <i>School Committee.</i>
GEO. F. SUMNER,	
J. W. WATTLES,	
JESSE FENNO,	
ISAAC HORTON,	
GEO. E. DOWNES,	
ARTHUR C. KOLLOCK,	
THOMAS LONERGAN,	
EDWIN WENTWORTH,	

## REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT.

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*Gentlemen of the School Committee :*

I have the honor to submit the following report :—  
During the past year there have been fewer changes of teachers than usual. Fourteen teachers have been employed continuously, as follows ;

High School,	Mr. F. M. WILKINS.
Dist. No. 1. Grammar,	Mr. GEO. W. CAPEN.
“ “ “Primary,	Miss CHARLOTTE TUCKER.
“ “ 2, Mixed,	Miss ELLEN McKENDRY.
“ “ 3, Intermediate,	Miss ALICE H. LOWRY.
“ “ “ “	Miss LUCY A. HALL.
“ “ “ Primary,	Miss ELDORA A. DRAKE.
“ “ “ “	Miss EMMA P. BENSE.
“ “ “ “	Miss ANNIE A. BENT.
“ “ “ “	Miss CARRIE L. SHATTUCK.
“ “ 4, Mixed,	Miss S. JENNIE DEAN.
“ “ 6, Grammar,	Mr. JEREMIAH E. EARLE.
“ “ “ Primary,	Miss E. FLORENCE FAUNCE.
“ “ 7, Intermediate,	Mrs. ABBY J. SNOW.

In District No. 3, Grammar School, Mr. F. H. Ripley resigned in August to take a more desirable position in Natick, and Mr. Philip H. Clark was elected as his successor. In District No. 5, there have been the usual number of changes. Miss Hadley, who taught during the Winter, re-

signed at the end of that term, and was succeeded by Miss Eliza A. Sumner. In October, she resigned, to go into a Dorchester School, and was succeeded by Miss Marion Endicott, who taught ten weeks, at the end of which time she also resigned, to take a place in Norwood, and was succeeded by Miss Helen C. Mills of Sharon. In the Primary Department in Dist. No. 7, Miss Sarah E. Gould, who had held the place of teacher for several terms, resigned in the latter part of May and the vacancy was filled for the remainder of the term by her sister, Miss Mary A. Gould. In September Miss Mary Scollard was elected as her successor. In the High School, Miss Susan W. Felton performed satisfactorily the duties of assistant until the close of the Summer term. In September Miss Annie E. Chace was chosen as her successor. We can hardly hope for a less number of changes than this in any one year.

The attendance of the pupils has been some better than last year. It is impossible, however, to give very reliable statistics, as we have no means of telling how many scholars there are between the ages of five and fifteen, in the several districts, and this should be taken into account in comparing one district with another, or one year with another. If we had a list of the children between these ages, giving the name, age, and residence of each, it would also be much easier to investigate the cases of truancy or habitual absence from school.

The whole number of scholars attending school this year has been seventeen more than last year, and the average attendance five more than then. The average per cent. of attendance in the different districts for the year is as follows ;

High School,	94.9
Dist. No. 3,	81.2
“ “ 6,	81.0
“ “ 1,	80.5
“ “ 2,	77.5
“ “ 7,	76.0

Dist. No. 5,	74.3
“ “ 4,	72.8

The average attendance was less than 75 per cent. of the whole number of scholars, in Districts 4, and 5, the Primary Department in District 7, and the fourth Primary in District No. 3. In District No. 4 the whole number during the Fall term was 30, but the average attendance for the first three weeks was less than 9 as most of the other scholars were picking cranberries. This absence was perhaps unavoidable, but the effect on the school was as bad as if they were away needlessly, the whole school being put back three weeks. The attendance at the High School deserves special mention. During the first term one scholar entered during the fourth week, and three others left soon after, thus bringing down to 87 per cent. the average, which would otherwise have been 97 per cent. For the Fall term the average attendance was 98 $\frac{1}{6}$  per cent. and for the Winter term it was 98 $\frac{3}{4}$  per cent. The teachers and pupils are deserving of great credit for this gratifying result. As will be seen by the report of the School Committee the roll of honor in the whole town has increased from 134 to 212 names, being a gain of 58 per cent.; the number not absent during the entire year being 20 in place of 10 the year previous, and the number not absent for two terms being 63 in place of 30 last year.

The closing Public Examinations of the schools took place during the week ending February 19th, 1875. In Districts 1, 2, and 4, the number of visitors was very large, and also at the High School, but in the other districts there were very few present, unless I except the Grammar department in District No. 3, where the attendance was fair. In the school on Pleasant Street, not a single visitor lived in the district. It is to be regretted that a greater number of parents do not feel called upon to attend at such times; not because the exercises are a sure test of the acquirements of the pupils, but because an interest in the school is thus awakened and main-



tained on the part of parents and children, and teachers are encouraged by seeing that their labors are appreciated.

During the year the schools have made very good progress in the studies in which they were most deficient, that is in Spelling and Arithmetic. This is particularly true of Spelling and the tables in Addition and Multiplication. In these three nothing avails but continual practice. Occasional exercises in mental problems ought to be given even in the Grammar and High schools. In District No. 3 Grammar School, it seems to me that Arithmetic has been neglected to give an undue proportion of the time to the study of History. In Reading the upper grades of schools have gone backward instead of forward. The cause of this is, no doubt, that the schools a year and a half ago were very deficient in Arithmetic and Spelling, and an extra portion of time has necessarily been devoted to those branches; but as the deficiency has in a great measure now been made good, I hope in the future to give more attention to this study. In the lower schools the reading is generally very good.

The best writing-books that I noticed were in districts 2 and 6, although I did not examine them in all the schools. In Geography the scholars are generally proficient.

Some of the upper grades of schools, especially the Intermediate, labor under a difficulty which cannot be easily obviated at present, in having scholars, who work part of the time, come into the school for two or three months. They of course come when most convenient to them, one at one time, and two or three at another and stay from a day to four months. It is naturally very difficult to find a suitable place for them, and they do not learn nearly as much as if there could be some regular time for them to enter the school, and some certainty as to the time they would remain. The schools of the intermediate grade suffer most from this cause. Still such scholars should not be discouraged from attending, but,



if possible, some arrangement should be made by which the regular duties of the schools would be least interfered with.

In the High School, the graduating class consisted of 5 members, as will be seen by the Report of the School Committee. Eighteen new scholars were admitted in September, 16 of whom availed themselves of the privilege. Of this number, one left at the close of the Fall term. Four have also left from what is now the first class, and one from the second, leaving 33 members of the school at the present time. I think that 16 is a larger number than we can expect to admit yearly, at present, and probably not more than 10 will be prepared at the close of the present Summer term. In this school Wednesday afternoons are now devoted to a general exercise in Arithmetic, English Grammar, Reading, and Declamations, and I think the school will be very much benefited by this practice. One subject in connection with the High School seems to need attention. The studies of the last six weeks of the Summer term are very much interrupted by the preparations for graduation. Some of the young ladies are absent a day or two for the purpose of having dresses made for the occasion, besides which, they find it necessary to be dismissed very often for various excuses connected with the great event. In some cases too, the members of the graduating class have felt themselves obliged to obtain more expensive dresses than they could well afford. The subject of graduation is also under constant discussion by the whole school, and the lower classes lose much by the consequent diversion of interest. While it is fitting that proper notice be taken of the departure of a class who have for four years pursued their studies in the school, it does not seem that more than two or three days ought to be lost by the graduating class, and none at all by the lower classes. This fault is not, however, very serious, and taking everything into account, I think that the High School never promised better than it does at the present time, both as regards scholarship and deportment.

The monthly written examinations of the first class in the grammar schools have been continued throughout the year. I think that the result of ten written examinations, given by a person not one of the teachers, is the surest test of the acquirements of a scholar, but the labor attending such examination is very great, and although the second class needs such examinations as much as the first, I could not extend them to this class, without neglecting the other schools.

The subject of Evening Schools was left last year to the discretion of the School Committee, as it seemed doubtful whether a sufficient number of scholars would attend. The schools have, however, been more successful than in any previous year. The attendance has been as follows ;

Dist. No. 1, whole number 21, average attendance 10.

“ “ 3, “ “ 92, “ “ 46.

“ “ 6, “ “ 54, “ “ 22.

In districts 3 and 6 there has also been an average of 27 who were, most of them, a few months short of 15 years of age. The average attendance up to February was much larger than this. In making up the above table, I have made no account of quite a number of scholars, who attended less than four evenings, as they could, of course, receive no benefit themselves, and would only hinder the others. I think that next year, these schools ought to begin about the middle of September, and close in February. Some measures should also be taken to keep scholars from changing, during the term, from one school to another unless for good cause. Those who every year attend for two, three, or four nights only, should not be admitted, except on assurance that they will attend a number of evenings, say ten or twelve at least.

The number of scholars in the town, between the ages of 5 and 15, the first day of May was 880, being 96 less than last year. The number between those ages, who have attended school three months or more during the year, is 741, an increase of 30 over last year. Thirty-two more have attended

between 50 and 60 days. One hundred and three more have had a few glimpses of the inside of a school-room, and with the exception of two or three, who attend out of town, and the few who are instructed at home, the remainder receive no instruction whatever.

The condition of the schools at the present time is satisfactory.

Although I do not think that any remarkable change for the better can be made in a school in a few weeks, still, steady work, continued through the year, is sure to produce gratifying results. The scholars, especially the older ones, take an interest in the standing of their respective schools. The teachers, generally, are kind to their pupils, interested in their work, and make great efforts to prevent unnecessary absence from school. Teaching intelligently requires an expenditure of energy and patience not easily appreciated by those who have not given special attention to the subject.

Respectfully submitted,

FREDERIC ENDICOTT,

SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

*Canton, March 15th, 1875.*

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At a meeting of the School Committee of Canton, held March 15th, 1875, the foregoing reports were presented and adopted as the Annual Report of the School Committee.

*Attest,*

A. C. KOLLOCK, *Secretary.*

## STATISTICS OF SCHOOLS.

SUB COMMITTEES.		Districts.	Grade of Schools.	No. in School 1st Term.	Average Attendance.	Per cent. of Attendance	No. in School 2d Term.	Average Attendance.	Per cent. of Attendance	No. in School 3d Term.	Average attendance.	Per cent. of Attendance	Over 15 Years.	Under 5 Years.	Length of School in months.	Amount paid for teaching.	Amount paid for Fuel and care of Rooms.	Amount paid for repairs and incidentals.	Amount paid for Drawing lessons and general supplies.
GEORGE F. SUMNER ISAAC HORTON.	1 2	Gram. Prim. Mixed.	43	33	.76	31	26	.85	39	34	.81	10	3	10	\$800 00	{ \$177 15 58 54	{ \$126 55 12 82	{ \$166 41	{ \$166 41
			45	36	.80	44	31	.82	42	31	.79	10	2	10	450 00				
			40	31	.77	38	31	.81	42	31	.74	10	3	10	798 00				
EDWIN WENTWORTH	3	Gram. Prim. Mixed.	51	41	.80	60	49	.83	54	48	.89	10	6	9	451 75	{ 529 83	{ 138 24	{ \$166 41	{ \$166 41
			41	33	.80	42	39	.93	44	39	.89	10	3	10	360 00				
			36	28	.79	41	35	.85	42	35	.83	10	1	10	360 00				
JESSE PENNO. GEO. E. DOWNES. JOS. W. WATLES. A. C. KOLLOCK. J. MASON EVERETT.	4 5 6 7	Gram. Prim. Mixed.	52	38	.73	36	34	.94	40	34	.85	10	1	10	326 00	{ 529 83	{ 138 24	{ \$166 41	{ \$166 41
			67	54	.81	65	52	.80	62	45	.73	10	2	10	280 00				
			73	51	.70	58	49	.84	67	41	.72	10	1	10	275 80				
JESSE PENNO. GEO. E. DOWNES. JOS. W. WATLES. A. C. KOLLOCK. J. MASON EVERETT.	4 5 6 7	Gram. Prim. Mixed.	33	25	.76	30	20	.67	29	22	.76	10	1	10	450 00	{ 529 83	{ 138 24	{ \$166 41	{ \$166 41
			31	23	.74	39	31	.78	37	28	.70	10	3	10	373 00				
			33	29	.87	38	32	.85	39	33	.85	10	3	10	800 00				
JESSE PENNO. GEO. E. DOWNES. JOS. W. WATLES. A. C. KOLLOCK. J. MASON EVERETT.	4 5 6 7	Gram. Prim. Mixed.	57	43	.77	62	51	.82	56	41	.73	10	2	10	450 00	{ 529 83	{ 138 24	{ \$166 41	{ \$166 41
			44	35	.80	37	29	.79	37	28	.77	10	2	10	450 00				
			74	54	.73	57	46	.80	56	39	.70	10	1	10	360 00				
JESSE PENNO. GEO. E. DOWNES. JOS. W. WATLES. A. C. KOLLOCK. J. MASON EVERETT.	4 5 6 7	Gram. Prim. Mixed.	29	25	.87	35	35	.98	34	34	.99	17	1	10	500 00	{ 529 83	{ 138 24	{ \$166 41	{ \$166 41
			802	622	.78	733	629	.83	751	596	.79	43	14	1083	\$9 374 55				

Whole number of children May 1, 1874, between the ages of 5 and 15, 880.





